

Florence, 2, 18, '61.

Friend May, Yours of the 13th reached me Saturday evening, on my arrival here from a lecturing tour made at the request of the acting General Agent of the Mass. A.S. Society. I think I will try to send what of the manuscript I may then have ready, by the representative of this District in the General Court, if, as I doubt not, he will consent to take it. He is expected at home I learn the latter part of this week, ^{& will probably go back a week from today}. That will be amply soon enough to enable the printers to overtake me before the manuscript will be finished. I have made very little progress while out on the lecturing tour just finished, & have, I suppose not far from enough prepared to make forty pages when printed. I do not expect to go out again to lecture till the work is finished. Prentiss' kind offer of paper to write the Report on I have no occasion to accept, as what he has already sent me will be abundantly sufficient for the purpose. As to "a larger compensa-

tion for doing the work", I have never thought of asking it or "deeming it needful" for the simple reason that I believed what had been offered was all the work when done would be really worth to the Society. If I had looked at the task as a mere business transaction, however, & had done it solely to earn the price, I would not have attempted, for the sum offered. The Reports already finished cost me more labor than would, in the lecturing field have earned twice the price paid for writing them, & labor of a far more "repugnant" kind, as the socialists express it; having much more the character of tiresome drudgery. The mere writing, as you know of course, is much the less half of the labor. But I should not have alluded to this at all, had not your suggestion in regard to larger compensation seemed to demand a reply, & this seemed to be the proper reply to make, if any. I thank you for the kind consideration which prompted your suggestion & which is in keeping with your whole bearing toward me in all our intercourse. I cannot say the increase of compensation is "needful", for I shall try to do the work as well as my ability will permit, for the price already offered; & I cannot say that it would "more certainly secure its being done in season" for I fully purpose to have it done in season anyhow, & at all events shall do my best to accomplish it.

Yours Truly, C. C. Burleigh